

Duty #5: Evaluate current protocols and extreme risk indicators used to identify potential threats and consider options for improving the dissemination of information between federal, state, and local entities and timely and appropriate intervention of mental health professionals.

My name is Kirk Conrad and I am 59 years old. Thank you for the consideration of my viewpoints and analysis. I chose to write concerning Duty#5 because it is the most relevant to so-called red flag laws which are important to me because they have the potential to violate more freedoms and amendments of The Constitution than any other element of the range of topics. The situations described below encompass the 4th, 5th, and 6th Amendments and probably others I do not realize. The 2nd Amendment – which we all know is the epicenter of the discussion – I will close with.

Allowing persons to anonymously report an individual as a red flag concern is patently ridiculous. It is an easy, effective, and abusive mechanism for a jilted girlfriend, boyfriend, spouse, business foe, or spoiled liberal punk that dates your daughter to steal – by way of the State – the ability of an individual to protect themselves, robbed them of their passion, such as deer hunting, and rob them of money because they must bear the expense of fighting the government – not the weasel that reported them.

To resolve this inequity and prove the validity of the accusations, if such “red flag” monstrosity become law in Texas, any person that reports another should be identified by the court and required to make their case to a judge or legal body AND bear the financial consequences of fully compensating the accused when vindicated for legal fees, court costs, court parking and travel expenses, motels, special witness fees, and related medical fees if they are wrong. People will darn sure think before they make accusations.

And their word alone is not sufficient. There must be objective evidence like video or audio recording or 3rd party – not family - witnesses. Granted, if John Doe is stupid enough to make convincing threats on YouTube, Twitter, or FaceBook, against others or himself, then he has no one to blame but himself when the cops show up – announced as cops. For the record, I used John for example, but women can be just as stupid.

While I brought it up - it being “no announcement” raids - I will address it. No knock or no notice arrests are recipes for disaster. For those that have major

hearing lose like I do, "Police" yelled in the middle of the night – or any time the hearing aids are not in – may just sound like a dog bark. Without forewarning any unannounced, uninvited, unidentifiable invader prepared to do bodily harm is fair game. Seeing a gun barrel come around a corner will gain more action than the badge on the chest that may follow. Waiting on the "may" will get you dead. The only occasions no knock raids are appropriate are hostage situations. Enough said about that.

Regarding intervention of mental health professionals, I have a story for you. At age 24 or 25 someone gave me a psychological analysis software package with a catchy name something like Dr. Shrink or ShrinkSoft. Whatever the name, it piqued my interest, and I took the test. The generate analysis described me to tee. Amazingly accurate. So much so, I worked to change some of the characteristics I did not like.

I bring up this story because if the software was that accurate 25 years ago, with the vast amount of data available on a person today predictive programming may yield good probabilities. However, predictions and probabilities of events are not actual events or actions. Just watch "Minority Report" starring Tom Cruise. It does not even have to be that sophisticated. If someone is claiming on the internet they are going to shoot or bomb people, then arrest and evaluate them – after getting a warrant from a judge.

Shooters want maximum damage from the efforts. It does not require much intelligence to realize a gun free zone is a preferred location for mass murderers and terrorist. I mean get real people, that is the same principle as baiting deer.

I regret having to end my statement here, but I work in IT and went live with a new system this week. Generally, it has been a good go-live but all encompassing and more needs to be done.

Thank you for the consideration.

Kirk Conrad